



HHS HealthBeat (April 26, 2012)

Toddlers, smoke and allergies

A study finds that 2-year-olds who were exposed to secondhand smoke are more likely to have less lung function at seven years of age. Also researchers say some have more risk than others.



At the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Kelly Brunst looked at data on kids, secondhand smoke, and allergies:

“Young girls at age two who had been exposed to tobacco smoke and had more allergic sensitization showed 6 times the loss in lung function when they were 7, compared to non-sensitized girls and non-sensitized boys.”

Brunst says it's another reason to keep kids away from smoke.

The study in the *Journal of Pediatric Allergy and Immunology* was supported by the National Institutes of Health.